TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE COMMERCE COMMITTEE February 21, 2012

Benjamin Barnes Secretary Office of Policy and Management

Testimony Supporting House Bill No. 5018

AN ACT CONCERNING CONNECTICUT INNOVATIONS, INCORPORATED, AND THE CONNECTICUT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Senator LeBeau, Representative Berger and distinguished members of the Commerce Committee, thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on House Bill No. 5018, AN ACT CONCERNING CONNECTICUT INNOVATIONS, INCORPORATED, AND THE CONNECTICUT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY.

This bill is part of Governor Malloy's initiative to streamline government and make the state more business friendly. House Bill 5018 proposes to merge the state's two economic development quasi-public agencies: Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated (CI) and the Connecticut Development Authority (CDA). Merging these two quasi-public agencies will provide businesses with a more efficient way to access the valuable resources both agencies provide both now and in the future.

I would like to again thank the committee for the opportunity to present this testimony and I respectfully urge your strong support for this bill. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.